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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,851	03/17/2004	Masaaki Togashi	119115	3103
25944	7590	12/23/2004	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			DINKINS, ANTHONY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2831	

DATE MAILED: 12/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/801,851

Applicant(s)

TOGASHI ET AL.

Examiner

Anthony Dinkins

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-17, 20, 25, 27 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18, 19, 21-24 and 26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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Claim Objections

Claim 15 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 15, line 12, after "least" insert --an--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 21, line 3, "has electrode" is not clear and makes the claim read incoherently, which the examiner is uncertain as to what the limitation should have been. The examiner is requesting that the applicant clarify the limitation or make the necessary correction.

Claim 27 recites the limitation "external connection part" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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Claims 15, 16, 20, 25, 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by JP-2001-185446. JP-2001-185446 disclose in Figures 1(a) and (b) an electronic device comprising: a main body including a plurality of internal conductor layers (8) stacked via ceramic layers (7) a pair of terminal electrodes (9) formed at the two ends of said main body in the longitudinal direction and selectively connected to said internal conductor layers (8), and a pair of external terminals (3) connected to said terminal electrodes (9), wherein each of said terminal electrodes (9) has at least electrode end face positioned at the end face of said main body in the longitudinal direction and a electrode side face formed at side face of said main body in the width direction so as to continue from said electrode end face to the side face, and each of said external terminals (3) is comprised of conductive sheet member formed with an electrode connection part (3a) connected to at least the electrode side face of said terminal electrode and an external connection part able to be connected to an external circuit. Regarding claim 16, wherein said external connection part (3a) is bent to substantially perpendicular to said electrode connection part (3a) and is separated from the bottom surface of said main body by a predetermined separation distance. Regarding claim 20, wherein the electrode connection part (3a) of the external terminal (3) further has end face connection piece to be connected to the electrode end face of said terminal electrode (9). Regarding claim 25, wherein the electrode connection part of the external terminal (3) is connected to the electrode side faces of the terminal electrodes (9) of a plurality of main bodies stacked along a height direction. Regarding claims 27 as best understood by the examiner, wherein the external connection part

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(3a) of the external terminal (9) is formed on the same plane as said end face connection piece. Regarding claim 28, wherein said pair of external terminals (9) are connected to a pair of electrode side faces formed at the same side face in the width direction of the main body.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP-2001-185446. JP-2001-185446 discloses the claimed invention except for having the width (L2) of said electrode side face of said terminal electrode is a length of 5% to 20% with respect to a length (LO) of said main body. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have the desired width (L2) of said electrode side face of said terminal electrode is a length of 5% to 20% with respect to a length (LO) of said main body, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-14 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Regarding claims 1-14, the allowability in combination with the other claimed features is because nowhere in the prior art is there an electronic device having the main body that is designed so that the value of WO/T becomes one in the range of 0.8 to 1.2.

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Claims 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yoshii et al.	6,704,189
Yoshida et al.	6,288,887
Ishigaki et al.	6,191,933
Nakagawa et al.	6,181,544

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony Dinkins whose telephone number is (571) 272-1972. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Anthony Dinkins
Primary Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Dinkins", written over a horizontal dashed line.

AD

ANTHONY DINKINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER